

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title to the invention with the following rewritten title:

Method Process of Isolating Extract from the ~~Euphorbiaeae~~ Euphorbia Obesa Plant and Methods for Using Same.

Please amend the specification as follows: replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a¹ This invention generally relates to compounds for treating cancer that are derived from plants and, in particular, the isolation and use of an extract from a ~~Euphorbiaeae~~ Euphorbia *obesa* plant having anti-tumor effects on a variety of cancerous cells.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a² The phorbol esters derived from other Euphorbiaceae species that are examined in these references have different physical and chemical properties as compared to the extract of the present invention, which is derived from the ~~Euphorbiaeae~~ Euphorbia *obesa* (hereinafter, "EO") species. For instance, when compared to TPA by thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis, the EO extract of the present invention has different mobilities. In addition, the absorption max and visible color of the EO extract and TPA are distinct. EO is a succulent, thornless, cactus-like plant that grows in temperate climates and is typically used in gardens for their ornamental value. Due to its ribbing or stitch-like ridges, the plant is commonly referred to as "the baseball plant." No biological or medicinal properties have been identified from this particular species. Thus, there is a need to isolate and evaluate novel compounds having anti-tumor activity from the EO species of the Euphorbiaceae family.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a³ The present invention is directed to the isolation of an extract from an ~~Euphorbiaeae~~ Euphorbia *obesa* (hereinafter "EO") plant that induces cytotoxicity of cancerous cells and inhibits their growth. Preferably, the extract is derived from the bulb of the plant, removing and therefore excluding any effect of the roots, outer cortex or latex material of the plant. The latex material separates the outer cortex and inner bulb of the plant.

Please replace the paragraph of the Abstract beginning at page 26, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a⁴ The present invention is directed to a process of isolating an extract from a ~~Euphorbiaeae~~ Euphorbia *obesa* (EO) plant by: preparing a sample of said plant comprising removal of the latex

Q4 material; dissolving said sample with first solvent to form a solution; separating said solution into a liquid and a pulp fraction; and purifying said pulp fraction. The isolated EO extract induces apoptosis and inhibits growth of a cancerous cell. Thus, the present invention is also directed to a method for inducing apoptosis and growth inhibition of a cancerous cell by contacting the cell with an effective amount of the EO extract by the process of the invention. Preferably, the extract is administered both to the tumor directly and intravenously. The preferred lines of cancerous cells are melanoma, non-small cell lung cancer, prostate cancer, breast carcinoma, ovarian cancer, lymphoma and leukemia cells.
